

Appl. No.: 10/019,795
Amendment Dated: February 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 10, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1-8 **(cancelled)**

9. **(previously presented)** A procedure for manufacturing boehmitic and/or pseudo-boehmitic alumina by precipitating basic and/or acidic aluminum salts, comprising precipitating said salts from an aqueous medium containing the following as the crystal nuclei:

0.1 to 5 % w/w of alumina hydrates and/or aluminas relative to the precipitated alumina hydrates and computed as Al_2O_3 , wherein the crystal nuclei in the medium have an average diameter of 20 to 150 nm.

10. **(cancelled)**

11. **(currently amended)** A procedure according to claim 9 ~~any one of claims 9 or 10~~ wherein the average diameter is from 50 to 100 nm.

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12. (currently amended) A procedure according to claim 9~~any one of claims 9 or 10~~, wherein crystal nuclei in an amount of 0.5 to 2 % w/w relative to the precipitated alumina hydrates and computed as Al_2O_3 are used for precipitation.

13. (currently amended) A procedure according to claim 9~~any one of claims 9 or 10~~, wherein the crystal nuclei are prepared in an aqueous, acidic solution and one or more basic aluminum salts and one or more acidic aluminum salts are jointly added.

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A procedure according to claim 9~~any one of claims 9 or 10~~, characterized in that alkali aluminates, earth alkali aluminates or aluminum hydroxy salts are used as the basic aluminum salts.

16. (currently amended) A procedure according to claim 9~~any one of claims 9 or 10~~, characterized in that aluminum sulfate, aluminum nitrate, aluminum chloride or aluminum formate are used as the acidic aluminum salts.

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17. **(currently amended)** A procedure according to claim 9~~any one of the claims 9 or 10~~, characterized in that the bulk of the alumina hydrate is precipitated at a pH value of 5 to 9.

18. **(original)** A procedure according to claim 17 wherein the pH value is from 6 to 8.

19. **(cancelled)**

20. **(previously presented)** A procedure for manufacturing boehmitic and/or pseudo-boehmitic alumina by precipitating basic and/or acidic aluminum salts comprising precipitating said salts from an aqueous medium containing the following crystal nuclei:

- (a) 0.1 to 5% w/w of alumina hydrates and/or aluminas relative to the precipitating alumina hydrates and computed as Al_2O_3 wherein the crystal nuclei (a) in the medium have an average diameter of 20 to 150 nm and,
- (b) 0.1 to 5% w/w of organic polymers/oligomers relative to the precipitated alumina hydrates and computed as Al_2O_3 , which form lattices in the medium, wherein the crystal nuclei (b) in the medium have an average diameter of 12 to 250 nm.

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21. **(currently amended)** A procedure for manufacturing alumina hydrates by precipitating basic and/or acidic aluminum salts, comprising precipitating said salts from an aqueous medium containing the following as the crystal nuclei:

0.1 to 5% w/w organic polymers/oligomers relative to the precipitated alumina hydrates and ~~an~~ computed as $\text{Al}-\text{O}_3$, Al_2O_3 , which form lattices ~~latiees~~ in the medium, wherein the crystal nuclei in the medium have an average diameter of 12 to 250 nm,

wherein the organic polymers/oligomers are selected from the group consisting of: polyacrylic acids, polymethacrylic acid, polyacrylates, polystyrenes, polyvinyl acetates, polyvinyl versalates, ~~and~~ their copolymers and mixtures thereof ~~thereof copolymers~~.

22. **(currently amended)** A procedure according to Claim 21, wherein the crystal nuclei are prepared in an aqueous, acidic solution and one or more basic aluminum salts and one ~~an~~ ~~one~~ or more acidic aluminum salts are jointly added.